

Coal Policy Committee

July 5, 2021



RMA
RURAL MUNICIPALITIES
of ALBERTA



Outline

- Introduction
- Our recommendations
- Discussion

Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA)

- AUMA is the voice of urban municipalities (270) and provides visionary leadership, solutions-based advocacy, and service excellence.
- Four major priorities of municipalities:
 - ◆ Economic Development
 - ◆ Planning and Land Use
 - ◆ Water Supply, and
 - ◆ Municipal Infrastructure

Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA)

RMA Is...

- Represents Alberta's 63 counties and municipal districts, five specialized municipalities and the Special Areas Board.
- Provide our members with advocacy and business services
 - ◆ The rural voice
 - ◆ Work with our members to capture the rural municipal perspective
 - ◆ Provide business supports to reduce municipal costs

Municipalities need to be part of the discussion

- We thank you for the opportunity to provide our feedback on this policy development.
- Municipalities need to be engaged as part of the process.

Alberta needs to move forward with the Land-Use Framework (LUF)

- Started in 2008
- Introduced the changes necessary to better balance our economic growth with our social and environmental values.

The framework provides a blueprint for land-use management and decision-making to address Alberta's growth pressures. It is about better managing our growth, not stopping it. The framework is designed to ensure good stewardship of Alberta's lands and natural resources so that future generations of Albertans benefit from the province's natural beauty and prosperity, just as we do today.

- Land-use Planning in Alberta, Alberta Environment and Parks

Alberta needs to move forward with the Land-Use Framework (LUF)

- Lack of progress
- LUF needs to be integrated into coaly policy development and future mining policies.
- Provincial policies must consider the cumulative environmental impacts of coal exploration.

Water must be part of this discussion

- AUMA believes that water management must be considered when developing the coal policy.
- We ask the committee to highlight this to the Minister of Energy.



Rural Municipalities of Alberta



A Strong Tourism Sector creates Jobs and Economic Growth in Alberta

- As Alberta begins its recovery from the COVID pandemic, tourism can play a strong role for generating revenue for municipalities and Alberta.
- RMA believes that diversification of Alberta's tourism is key as it will bring jobs into municipalities and local businesses will benefit.

Rural Municipal Context on Tourism

- The majority of Alberta coal leases are adjacent to popular tourist destinations.
- Many municipalities have halted their tourism plans because of a lack of public consultation and the unknown state of the coal leases. It is important for municipalities to be engaged.
- RMA believes tourism and recreation are economic generators that will remain well into the future.

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Is tourism and open-pit mining going work together?

RMA Member Municipality

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Summary

- Coal development and its impacts – positive and negative - matters to Alberta municipalities, urban and rural alike.
- Municipalities need to be at the table
- Important to Albertans across the province.

Discussion

AUMA/RMA Contacts

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